

Lou has also been actively involved in Fresno Unified School District's Superintendent's English Learner Task Force to ensure that language barriers do not keep students from succeeding in school. Lou's life story serves as a positive example for her students, demonstrating that despite the obstacles she has had to overcome as an immigrant, anything is possible with hard work and determination. The community of Fresno is very fortunate to have such a dedicated individual who continues to inspire students to believe they can achieve anything.

Lou is married to her husband Shue Vue, a civil engineer for the State of California Department of Transportation. Lou and Shue Vue have three children together and hope that the success they have achieved in their chosen professions provides inspiration for their children to achieve their own personal success in life and give back to their communities.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the achievement of Lou Xiong in the field of education as she is recognized as one of a select few top educators in our country by the Milken Family Foundation.

**HONORING OPERATION IRAQI
FREEDOM SCOUT SNIPER AND
SOUTH EL MONTE NATIVE USMC
SGT. ERIC B. SANDOVAL**

HON. JUDY CHU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2010

Ms. CHU. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great loss to our community, United States Marine Corps Sgt. Eric B. Sandoval, who passed away on Nov. 12, 2010, at the young age of 30. My heart goes out to his wife, Sandy; his stepson, Isaiah Salcedo; his parents, Roberto and Gloria; his brothers and sisters, Robert, Danny, Gabby, Alejandra, Jonathan and Steven; and the rest of his family and friends.

Born in Los Angeles, Eric spent nearly all of his life in South El Monte and later Covina, attending Dean L. Shively Middle School and later South El Monte and Pomona high schools. A patriot who loved his country, he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps right out of high school at just 17 years of age, and spent the next 8 years as a scout sniper, serving in our nation's conflict in Iraq as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Within days of his arrival in Iraq, Eric's platoon came under attack. The attack was so brutal that Eric was the only one of his group to survive, and had to undergo extensive surgery to repair his damaged eye and ear.

Sergeant Sandoval received numerous awards and commendations for his bravery in the face of terrible odds, including the Navy & Marine Achievement Medal; Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal; Afghanistan Campaign Medal; Global War on Terrorism Service Medal; Humanitarian Service Medal; Sea Service Deployment Award; Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal; Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation; and Good Conduct Medal, among others.

After recovering from his injuries, Sergeant Sandoval's undying patriotism led him to return to Iraq, this time as a contractor for the government, helping to support his former

comrades at arms until the time of his passing. And despite the hardships and difficulties presented by his war injuries, Eric still managed to attend college and graduate with a bachelor's degree in accounting and a master of arts degree in business administration, with honors.

Eric B. Sandoval's generosity and kindness are an inspiration to his family and our entire community, and he lived his life with integrity and bravery. Our nation owes him a debt of gratitude that cannot be repaid. So I urge all my House colleagues to join me in honoring our community hero, Sgt. Eric B. Sandoval, for his remarkable service and contributions to our country.

**A TRIBUTE TO DONNA R.
DICKERSON**

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Ms. Donna R. Dickerson.

Ms. Dickerson is the Education Director for the Genesis Academy, where she has worked since 1997. The Genesis Academy is one of the leading after-school programs in the Brownsville community of Brooklyn, New York. The institution's goal is to academically, socially and culturally enrich the community's youth. Over the years, Ms. Dickerson has emerged as a leader in youth development, implementing programs for children in the Genesis Academy and the community at large.

At the age of sixteen, Ms. Dickerson took an opportunity to work at a daycare center. Facing her own childhood adversity, at this job she realized her destiny: to work with children. The joy of the classroom inspired Ms. Dickerson to work at this daycare center for longer than she had initially intended.

In 1991, a fire devastated Ms. Dickerson and her family. Within a three month span, they were living in a shelter and dealing with the death of six family members. The situation became more than Ms. Dickerson could handle and she had no idea where to turn next; adapting to this new way of life taught Ms. Dickerson how to survive.

In the heart of East New York, there is a place called Genesis Homes. Here, new beginnings are possible, all you have to do is believe and go get it. A program was offered, called T.E.P.P., where a participant would get paid to work. Ms. Dickerson was offered a position as a recreation aide and accepted it. She worked with every age group over the years, leaving a positive mark on all the children she interacted with. During this time, Ms. Dickerson realized that she was a role model and needed to always act as such. She was no longer responsible for just her own children, but for thousands of children who, at times, appeared to depend on her more than their own family.

Ms. Dickerson is grateful for several important people in her life. Her parents, for teaching her and her siblings to love one another, respect all and treat people like they would want to be treated. Her sisters, for always being there, no matter the time of day she called on them. Most importantly, Ms.

Dickerson is grateful for her children: Brandon, Corey and Charisma.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the achievements of Ms. Donna R. Dickerson.

**CALLING FOR DIGNITY, COMFORT,
AND SUPPORT FOR HOLOCAUST
SURVIVORS**

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 30, 2010

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, there are not many Holocaust survivors left in the world. Each year as the number dwindles, we worry about how people will remember the evils of the Holocaust when there are no longer eyewitnesses to give their personal accounts. We promote remembrance and teach tolerance. We fight Holocaust deniers and those who grotesquely glorify the Holocaust and denigrate the memory of the six million.

But while we focus intently on ensuring awareness of the tragedy of the past we are losing sight of a tragedy in our midst: Many Holocaust survivors are living their final days in poverty.

According to the Jewish Federations of North America, more than half of the 127,000 Holocaust survivors living in the United States fall beneath 200 percent of the federal poverty threshold, meaning they live on less than \$21,660 per year. Holocaust survivors are five times more likely to be living below the poverty line than the general senior population.

In Los Angeles, one in six survivors requires community assistance. In the past year, the LA Jewish Federation has seen the number of survivors needing emergency assistance for basic housing, food, medical, dental and transportation needs rise by 20 percent.

The vast majority of these survivors are now in their 80's and 90's and two-thirds of them live alone. Very few have any family support network, which is not surprising considering that so few had family that survived the war. As a result, many are forced into institutional care because they cannot afford to receive care in their homes.

While institutionalized care settings are beneficial for many older adults, Holocaust survivors react poorly and can be prone to emotional suffering and physical deterioration from sights, sounds and routines that may resurrect Holocaust experiences. Research indicates that survivors, in particular, benefit tremendously from access to social service programs that allow them to age in place in their current residences. It is a solution that is both cost-effective and humane.

As one of the original sponsors of the U.S. Administration on Aging grant program now known as the Community Innovations In Aging In Place, I am hopeful that we can find the resources to help these survivors in their time of need.

I urge my colleagues to support H. Con. Res. 323 and I look forward to working with them to achieve its goal of ensuring that all Holocaust survivors in the United States are able to live with dignity, comfort, and security in their remaining years.